

# United States Marshals Service



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 6, 2006

Contact: U.S. Marshal Eric Robertson  
U.S. Marshals Service  
Seattle (206) 370-8601

## **Northwest's Most Wanted Murder Suspect Arrested in Mexico**

One of the Pacific Northwest's Most Wanted fugitives was arrested today in the town of San Juan Del Rio in the State of Durango, Mexico by Mexican law enforcement authorities based on information developed by the Pacific Northwest Fugitive Apprehension Task Force (PNWFAT). Victor Yanes, 29 years-old of Seattle, was wanted by the Seattle Police Department (SPD) for Murder in the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree and by the U.S. Marshals Service for Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution on the murder charge.

On August 12, 2003, Yanes allegedly shot and killed Erik A. Bazan in North Seattle following a dispute involving a female acquaintance of both men. Yanes blocked in Bazan's vehicle with his, exited his vehicle and shot Bazan through the windshield killing him instantly.

Information developed by the SPD detectives assigned to the case led them to believe that Yanes had immediately fled to Mexico following the shooting. SPD detectives requested the assistance of the PNWFAT in locating and apprehending Yanes in Mexico. In April of 2004, after working closely with the King County Prosecutor's Office and the Department of Justice's Office of International Affairs, PNWFAT investigators managed to have an international provisional arrest warrant issued for Yanes' arrest in Mexico. A collateral lead was sent to the U.S. Marshal Service office at the American Embassy in Mexico City and the waiting began.

"Persistency and patience have paid off in a big way" said U.S. Marshal Eric E. Robertson, in announcing the arrest of Yanes. "Getting a Mexican citizen arrested in Mexico on a homicide warrant from the United States is a giant undertaking which can take years, and today we are extremely pleased in announcing the arrest of Victor Yanes."

The PNWFAT is a U.S. Marshals-sponsored partnership comprised of investigators from the King County Sheriffs Office, Seattle Police Department, Washington State Department of Corrections, the U.S. Social Security Administration OIG, and the U.S. Marshals Service. The Task Force is supported by the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative and was formed to concentrate apprehension efforts to remove federal, state and local fugitives from the streets. The Task Force objective is to disrupt illegal gun and drug traffickers in the Pacific Northwest and to reduce the amount of violence in the region.

For additional information on other major case fugitives, go to the U.S. Marshals Service's website at [www.usmarshals.gov](http://www.usmarshals.gov). For additional information on the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Initiative, go to the PSN website at [www.psn.gov](http://www.psn.gov). For information on the apprehension, call U.S. Marshal Eric E. Robertson at 206-370-8601; for information on the criminal case, call the King County Prosecutor's Office at 206-296-9000. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON YANES:**

<http://www.usmarshals.gov/district/wa-w/fugitives/pdf/yanes.pdf>